

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-03 INR-07 SP-02 L-02 SSO-00

INRE-00 PRS-01 /041 W

----- 019336

O 240940Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8208

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2369

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: 440L OTH RADAR SITES

REF: STATE 039962

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

1. POL/COUNS PASSED SUBSTANCE REFTTEL TO FONOFF SECURITY DIVISION  
CHIEF YAMASHITA FEB 24.

2. YAMASHITA STATED HE HAD ALREADY BEEN PUT UNDER CONSIDERABLE  
PRESSURE FROM PRESS ON SUBJECT OF IMPENDING OTH SITE CLOSURES.  
STORY HAS RECEIVED PROMINENT PRESS PLAY ON BASIS OF ANNUAL  
DEFENSE DEPARTMENT REPORT MADE PUBLIC IN WASHINGTON FEB 10  
WHICH STATES (ON PAGE II-48) THAT OTH SYSTEM TO BE PHASED  
OUT DURING FY 1975 INSTEAD OF FY 76 AT URGIN OF HOUSE APPRO-  
PRIATIONS COMMITTEE. ARMED WITH THIS INFO, PRESS HAS ALREADY  
ASKED YAMASHITA WHEN USG OFFICIALLY INFORMED GOJ OF CLOSURES.  
YAMASHITA REPLIED THAT GOJ HAD NOT YET RECEIVED ANY OFFICIAL  
NOTICE, BUT IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER PRESS PROBING ABOUT "UN-  
OFFICIAL NOTICE" HE RESPONDED WITH "NO COMMENT."

3. DOD REPORT, YAMASHITA'S ANSWERS AND SOME EDUCATED SPECULATION  
WERE ENOUGH FOR ASAHI TO MAKE CLOSURES INTO LENGTHY, FRONT-  
PAGE TOP STORY AND COMMENTARY FOR FEB 24. SELECTED EXCERPTS  
FROM ARTICLE AND COMMENTARY FOLLOW: QTE ...THE US SIDE'S  
AUTONOMOUS REMOVAL POLICY WILL RESULT IN "DODGING" THE OPPOSITION  
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SIDE'S OFFENSIVE (FOR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL).

THE GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THIS ACTION OF THE US SIDE...(REMOVAL)  
HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT'S NEGOTIATIONS  
WITH THE US, BUT IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT A MORE EFFECTIVE  
METHOD OF DETECTION OF ICBM'S... HAS BEEN DEVELOPED. IT  
IS AUTONOMOUS REMOVAL BY THE US SIDE...IF THE GOVERNMENT  
HAD PAID ATTENTION TO THE PRESENT STATE OF TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT  
BY THE US, IT COULD HAVE SOUGHT EARLIER REMOVAL OF THE OTH  
SYSTEM, WHICH FORMS A PART OF AMERICA'S NUCLEAR STRATEGIC  
SET-UP. IT CANNOT BE DENIED THAT

SINCE SUCH EFFORTS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE, THE PEOPLE HAVE STRENGTHENED  
THEIR FEELING OF UNEASINESS TO THE EFFECT THAT OUR  
COUNTRY MAY HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN AMERICA'S NUCLEAR  
STRATEGY SET-UP. UNQTE

4. IN VIEW OF DOD REPORT AND ASAHI STORY YAMASHITA EXPECTS  
TO COME UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE IN DIET ON SUBJECT OF CLOSURES  
AND DOES NOT KNOW HOW LONG GOJ CAN REFRAIN FROM CONFIRMING USG  
HAS INFORMED IT. HE EXPECTS MOST ACUTE POLITICAL PRESSURE,  
HOWEVER, TO DEVELOP CONCERNING RETURN OF TOKOROZAWA AND AWASE  
SITES. AMBASSADOR NOW VISITING SAPPORO AND EXPECTS  
ENCOUNTER LIVELY PRESS INTEREST IN IMPENDING CHITOSE OTH  
PHASE-OUT AT PRESS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR PM FEB 25. IT  
WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO US AND GOJ IF DEPARTMENT COULD  
CLARIFY CONFIDENTIALITY OF CLOSURES AND FUTURE STATUS OF OTH  
SITES BY IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE MESSAGE INFO SAPPORO AND  
NAHA TIMED TO REACH HERE BY NOON FEB 25.  
HODGSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, MILITARY BASES, MILITARY PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975TOKYO02369  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750064-0428  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** 440L OTH RADAR SITES  
**TAGS:** MARR, JA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006